

JUSTIFIED HER RIGHT TO VOTE

Nobody Can Say They Do
Not Know How to
Function

JUST AS GOOD AS MEN

Party Leaders Well Pleased
Over Way Women Took
Up New Duties

BY MARGHERY REE
NEW YORK, Nov. 13.—What has come of the denunciations of the prospective woman voter, the prospect that she would know how to vote, that she would take the trouble to stand in line to cast her ballot, that she didn't care for candidate or principle or party sufficiently to stand in line to vote?

One of the most important decisions of our age was made in the recent vote. Lesser decisions in state and county were made, too, and in all of them women had their say.

And women have proved that they will stand hours for the privilege in a stuffy shop or on crowded sidewalks in a stiff gale that she knew just for whom she wished to vote, and that she is able to give good reasons for her decisions.

That she can fight for a principle and against a candidate, and also that she can give up a fight against a man to serve a principle, that she may rebel openly against election results and predict as fearlessly as any man of long voting experience.

Of that number who believe that a protest, though at first over-whelmed, has its ultimate effect, in Miss Mary Garrett Hay, chairman of the New York City League of Women Voters, who has been in opposition to the re-election of Senator J. W. Wadsworth, Jr., from New York state.

Work Will Have Results.
Seen at her office, No. 37 West Thirty-ninth street, recently, she expressed satisfaction over the election returns, and said:

"All women who have worked for years to gain the ballot for their sex are delighted over the fact that women in this election have voted in such large numbers and have taken such an intense interest in campaign issues. The old contentions, when enfranchised, they would do neither, is now seen to be a fallacy.

"As a republican, I am pleased with Mr. Harding's great victory, and, with republican gains all along the line, I hope that the republican party will do a great reconstruction work for the country, and that the voters will never regret the confidence they have expressed in the ability of the members of the party to bring us back to better conditions.

"As to the fight against Senator Wadsworth, in which I participated because I considered him a candidate unworthy the republican party, I feel satisfied with many of its results. To be sure, the senator was not defeated, but the women and the men who opposed him have issued a voter's declaration of independence that will in years to come bring needed reform. For they have shown that large numbers of the voters rebel against having candidates forced upon them by bosses and political machines, that they demand men in office who will represent their interests and believe in independence of thought and action should be expected and respected at the ballot box.

"This movement will not die out, for the people who started it have found many adherents who will continue to preach its doctrine. Mr. Wadsworth had to work hard for his election, and would have been defeated, I believe, if the success of his whole ticket had not helped him. No good fight was ever fought in vain, so that the anti-Wadsworth forces are not discouraged within

first battle in the interest of more representative candidates, and a ticket that is the expression of the voters' desires and not that of a machine. Voting for them is merely postponed to a future date.

Views of Other Leaders.
Mrs. James Lewis Laidlaw, agrees with Miss Hay's statement that Senator Wadsworth was helped by the success of his ticket. Mrs. Laidlaw is a prominent suffragist and member of the International Women's Voters association.

"Senator Wadsworth ran behind his ticket," says Mrs. Laidlaw, "and this undoubtedly was caused by the women's protest. The republican landslide brought about an election result which will mean an emergency reaction to come, and not very far distant, either.

"Women's vote is more or less disregarded now, but in another four years it will be a greater force. No one can predict how great or how far-reaching it will become."

From Miss Helen York Bowen, a well-known suffragist who voted for Senator Wadsworth, comes another statement, intended to refute and confuse the jibing men who have said women cannot bury a prophet.

"I don't believe in holding a private grudge against the senator for something that happened two years ago," laughed Miss Bowen. "I don't agree with him on some of his policies, but he is an honorable man of the sort we need in public office. For the public good many thousands of women voted for him.

"We needed Wadsworth to back Harding in congress. Why expect Mr. Harding to function as a republican president if we do not place supporters at his back in the senate and the house?"

"Women do not vote as a group. They have gone into various parties with the greatest interest and understanding of affairs. As chairman of an organization including thousands of women in New York county, I know positively that women are not only going to be organized, but are organized right now.

Triumph Over Prejudice.
The fact that Wadsworth is elected shows that women can subdue their prejudices to a greater cause.

"As for women breaking up friendships over political convictions, that is ridiculous. Women are human beings like men. Some will let these things matter and some won't. I have a number of friends directly opposed to me on political questions, but I can say that these are the only points on which we differ at all."

With the coming of a new era in politics and with the enfranchised woman to her hard-earned place, former accusations against their sex must go their way along with the fast disappearing enemies of the suffrage. Women have proved they are able to defeat philosophically, and their leaders contend that they are equally competent to keep their heads, despite the intoxicating influences of victory.

THE STATE INSTITUTIONS ARE NUMEROUS, INCLUDING THE SIX STATE NORMALS, THE UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND AGRICULTURE, AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE AT STILLWATER. THERE ARE OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, SUCH AS THE WOMAN'S COLLEGE AT CHICKASAW, THE MILITARY SCHOOL AT CLAREMORE, AND OTHER SEMI-UNIVERSITY AT TONKAWA. BEHIND THE STATE CONVENTIONAL INSTITUTION IN GAVIN COUNTY, THE GRACE HOME AT HADLEY, AND THE FEMALE PENITENTIARY AT DUNDY. THERE ARE ALSO FOUR SECONDARY AGRICULTURAL OR TRAINING SCHOOLS. INCLUDE NUTRIENT INSTITUTIONS AT LANCASTER AND TAFT, ORPHAN HOMES, BLIND SCHOOLS, TWO PENITENTIARIES AND TWO INSANE ASYLUMS, AND IT IS VERY EASY TO UNDERSTAND WHY IT IS THAT THE COST OF STATE GOVERNMENT MOUNTS HIGH, EVEN WHEN THERE IS RICH ECONOMY IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE VARIOUS INSTITUTIONS, IN THE MAIN BECAUSE OF POLITICAL REASONS AND WITHOUT REGARD TO THE ECONOMY OF THE PUBLIC WHICH SUSTAINS THEM, AND WHICH AT TIMES MUST MAKE USE OF SOME OF THEM.

CRYING NEED OF CUTTING EXPENSES

Long List of Boards and
Commissions Takes
Money

THE AX MAY BE USED

Most of Them are Relies of
Past Conditions Without
Which We'd Be Better off

Staff Correspondence.
OKLAHOMA CITY, Nov. 13.—

Key Oklahoma legislators has for a general task the question of expenditures. These are made in each regular session for a biennial period, the fiscal years ending on June 30.

The seventy legislature, which convened in January, 1919, reached the apex in appropriations, the total for the biennial being a trifle in excess of \$18,000,000. Of this amount, \$14,000,000 in round numbers was to be taken from the general revenue fund, the remaining four millions being taken from outside bond and other special funds.

In 1919 appropriations were increased a little, although no other legislative body had ever undertaken such large amounts of public money for state government, and it was at that time necessary for the state board of equalization to raise the assessed valuation of property in order to secure the necessary revenues to meet the appropriations.

Advancing prices for crude oil, on which there is a three per cent gross production tax, relieved the state official dilemma, but has never quite relieved the feeling that the legislature was entirely too liberal in giving from the strong box to maintain the various departments of our state government. The highest former biennial allowance was in round numbers \$15,000,000.

The 1919 appropriations were figured so that it would cost the state of Oklahoma for the year beginning July 1, 1920, and closing June 30, 1921, the sum of \$17,348,000.85 for all expenditures of this amount the larger portion, as in all other years, can be charged to institutional expenses.

The state institutions are numerous, including the six state normals, the university of science and agriculture, and mechanical college at Stillwater. There are other educational institutions, such as the woman's college at Chickasaw, the military school at Claremore, and other semi-university at Tonkawa. Behind the state conventional institution in Gavin county, the Grace home at Hadley, and the female penitentiary at Dundy. There are also four secondary agricultural or training schools. Include nutrient institutions at Lancaster and Taft, orphan homes, blind schools, two penitentiaries and two insane asylums, and it is very easy to understand why it is that the cost of state government mounts high, even when there is rich economy in the management of the various institutions, in the main because of political reasons and without regard to the economy of the public which sustains them, and which at times must make use of some of them.

Where the Money Goes.
Agricultural institutions are not altogether paid for from general revenues. Endowments and federal aid of much assistance to some of the state institutions, but like the highway aid from the government, the state must furnish money to keep them in running condition. There are few departments at the statehouse requiring large forces of employees, and these assistants are paid pitifully small salaries, ranging from as low as \$4.50 to as high as \$12.50 per month.

The school land department (which under our law is a sort of fifth wheel having its head through five elective state officers and controlled through a secretary, by someone those with a large number of employees, and the state highway department with the corporation commission encompasses the remainder of the departments which have a small army at the statehouse. All three of these departments also have a small force which bring up their total and also make their expenditures for fuel, food, and other necessities for their small staffs. The board of agriculture is the fourth department, which with office and field forces draw heavily on the general revenue fund for maintenance.

By far the most extensive of these outlays must be attributed to the state corporation commission. Since the oil and gas conservation department was established during the Williams administration, the commission has added the scope of its operations, increased its force in the field and at the capital building. Necessarily this has increased the cost of expenses and the appropriations to be asked for this economic session will be large. It is also quite generally conceded that with increasing force and expenditures the commission has now reached the point where it can not enforce the TTT statute of inefficiency, but this is alleged to be due to the fact that federal laws have stripped it of any power to do otherwise than to make orders it can not enforce.

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While the present fiscal year will permit legalized expenditures of \$7,234,000.88 and that amount of money plus \$120,000 is now in the treasury to meet such expenditures, it may be feared, it was expected that the coming legislature would very materially increase the appropriations for each of the next two years. At least that was the program, and when the budget was being prepared

der of the departments which have a small army at the statehouse. All three of these departments also have a small force which bring up their total and also make their expenditures for fuel, food, and other necessities for their small staffs. The board of agriculture is the fourth department, which with office and field forces draw heavily on the general revenue fund for maintenance.

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